

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUCAR 04042 181922Z

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ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-08 ISO-00 SS-07 NSC-06 SSO-00 NSCE-00

AID-01 /026 W

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O R 181820Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO USINFO WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4169

UNCLAS BUCHAREST 4042

USIA FOR IEU, IGC, IPS, IBS

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: OVIP (CODEL ALBERT)

SUBJECT: CODEL ALBERTBUCHAREST PRESS CONFERENCE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CARL ALBERT, IN REMARKS MADE AT AN AUGUST 18 PRESS CONFERENCE IN BUCHAREST, EXPRESSED HIS "DEEP SATISFACTION" WITH THE U.S.-ROMANIAN BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP, AND CALLED FOR NEW TIES-PARTICULARLY IN THE LEGISLATIVE AND ECONOMIC FIELDS-BETWEEN THE TWO NATIONS. THE HOUSE LEADER, HERE TO HEAD UP AN OFFICIAL DELEGATION OF 17 CONGRESSMEN VISITING SEVERAL EUROPEAN NATIONS, TOLD A LARGE GROUP OF JOURNALISTS THAT HE AND HIS CONGRESSIONAL COLLEAGUES HAD DERIVED, IN THEIR FOUR DAYS OF TALKS WITH ROMANIAN OFFICIALS, "A RENEWED SENSE OF THE IMPORTANCE AND STABILITY" OF THE U.S.-ROMANIAN RELATIONSHIP.

THE U.S. CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION IS THE FIRST EVER TO MAKE AN OFFICIAL VISIT TO ROMANIA. THEIR TRIP COMES ONLY THREE WEEKS AFTER THE CONGRESS VOTED ITS APPROVAL OF MFN STATUS FOR ROMANIA, AND ONLY TWO WEEKS AFTER THE VISIT TO ROMANIA OF PRESIDENT FORD. WITH THAT CONGRESSIONAL VOTE, ROMANIAN BECAME THE FIRST EAST EUROPEAN NATION TO RECEIVE PREFERENTIAL TARIFF TREATMENT UNDER THE CONTROVERSIAL PROVISIONS OF THE 1974 TRADE ACT.

FOLLOWING SPEAKER ALBERT'S REMARKS, THE U.S. DELEGATION

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FIELDLED QUESTIONS ON A VARIETY OF BILATERAL AND INTERNATIONAL

TOPICS. AMONG THESE WERE BILATERAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS, PROSPECTS FOR A NEW ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE DEVELOPED AND UNDERDEVELOPED WORLD, AND THE AFTERMATH OF THE HELSINKI SUMMIT. SPEAKER ALBERT EXPRESSED HIS PERSONAL HOPE THAT ECONOMIC TIES BETWEEN THE U.S. AND ROMANIA WOULD EXPAND EVEN MORE WITH MFN, AND THAT THE OVERALL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES WOULD IMPROVE WITH THE INTRODUCTION OF COOPERATIVE ARRANGEMENTS BETWEEN THE TWO LEGISLATURES.

THE AMERICAN GROUP HAS BEEN IN THIS BALKAN NATION SINCE FRIDAY, MEETING AS A GROUP AND INDIVIDUALLY WITH A WIDE SPECTRUM OF ROMANIAN OFFICIALS. THEY HAVE ALSO TRAVELED TO THE ROMANIAN BLACK SEA COAST AND TO TRANSYLVANIA TO MEET WITH KEY ROMANIAN LEADERS. THEY DEPART TUESDAY, AUGUST 19 FOR YUGOSLAVIA.
BARNES

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BUCHAR04042
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750285-0255
From: BUCHAREST
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750841/aaaabjqr.tel
Line Count: 76
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION H
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ellisoob
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 DEC 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 DEC 2002 by ReddocGW>; APPROVED <21 JAN 2004 by ellisoob>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CODEL ALBERTBUCHAREST PRESS CONFERENCE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CARL ALBERT, IN REMARKS
TAGS: OREP, (ALBERT, CARL)
To: n/a
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006